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REMARKS

The drawings were objected to. Corrected drawings are presented, modified as suggested by the Examiner, thereby overcoming the objection.

Claims 1-5, 8-10, 18-21, and 23 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being anticipated by Takahashi et al, US Published Application 2001/0030786.

Claim 1 is amended to more clearly define the invention and, as amended, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by the Takahashi et al reference. Specifically, claim 1 specifies an "add mechanism" that is connected to the second port of the circulator that is connected to the device's input port, which mechanism

is adapted to receive optical signals from said second port and to provide no optical signals to said second port (emphasis supplied).

This is precisely the opposite of the structure described by Takahashi et al, where the device that is connected to the second port of the circulator is a reflector, and it is precisely the intentionally reflected, desired, signal that is being measured. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Takahashi et al, and neither are all of the claims that depend on claim 1.

Additionally, amended claim 1 specifies a feedback path to a tunable source. No such tunable source is found in Takahashi et al. Clearly, therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Takahashi et al.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 11, and 13 were also rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Miyakawa et al, US Patent 5,926,300. Applicant respectfully traverses. The Miyakawa et al reference shows no feedback path at all from the monitor to the add mechanism.

A number of claims were rejected under 35 USC 103 over Miyakawa et al in view of Takahashi et al. These claims were deleted for the present.

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In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully,
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By 

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